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REMEMBRANCES

OF

COURT OF HEROINES.

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LANDMARKS AND CEREMONIES

—OF—

COURTS OF HEROINES

OF JERICHO.

BY

MOSES DICKSON, P. G. M.

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PREFACE.

The author, having for a number of years given these Ladies' Degrees his study, and finding much in them imperfect as they have been given in late years, has hunted through Masonic history and its traditions for their origin, and the manner and mode in which they were first given.

Now, after years of patient search in the mysteries of the Ancient Craft and their working for hnndreds of years, step by step we trace the origin of Female Degrees through ancient and modern times, and find that the Three De-

grees, as they are given in the Ritual, were first brought to perfect order in France, as early as the year A. D. 1220, in the reign of Louis VIII.; and from thence passed into England, Germany, Scotland, and many other established governments. We have become perfectly satisfied from our researches that the Three Degrees are the heritage and property of Master Masons, their wives, widows, daughters, mothers and unmarried sisters. These Degrees existed in an organized state many years before the Chapter, Council or Encampments were ever heard or thought of. In fact, these Degrees were known and given when we had nothing but the good Ancient Craft Masonry, which is almost as old as creation.

We ask those who claim the H. of J. as the exclusive property of the Holy R. A., to investigate the matter and history of these Degrees, and then tell us which is right. The unmistakable evidence of Masonic History and Tradition makes the Court of Heroines the property of the M. M. House, and it will only create confusion and discontent to try and take

any one of the Degrees from them. History plainly tells us that as far back as A. D. 1283 the H. of J. was well known and practiced by Master Masons and their wives and daughters. Read the Masonic history of Sir William Wallace, and others, of Scotland; that of the reign of the House of Valois, in France; from A. D. 1428 to 1500 in England and other countries. From A. D. 1500 to 1790 these Degrees did exist, but there were no regular organized Courts. Courts were revived again in France in A. D. 1790, and were presided over by some of the most eminent ladies of Paris and other cities of France. Under the Empire of the First Napoleon the Court of H. of J. assumed a splendor in machinery and appointment, in dress and richness, never before or since equaled. A Court in Paris, presided over by the Empress Josephine, was oriental in magnificence, and as splendid and mysterious as Aladdin's Palace and the groves of enchantment.

These Degrees are the oldest and most perfect of all the Female Degrees. Among the many hundred that have been born in the last hundred years, and taught by grand lecturers,

these, the oldest, have outlived them. They have come down to us through centuries, unaltered. Though sometimes almost buried in the crash and fall of nations, for a few years, still they re-appear full of vigor and life. Historians have tried to find the time when these Degrees were introduced into this country, and failed to fix the period; but we are assured that, with the introduction of Masonry into the provinces of America, came these Degrees.

History of the Degrees.

HISTORY OF THE M. M. D.

This Degree was founded on the following reasons: Soon after the great event of the death, burial, and resurrection of the Son of God, the Jews that believed in his predictions, that they were to be dispersed and scattered among all nations (and nearly all were Masons), cast about them for some plan whereby their Masonry would benefit their wives, widows, daughters, sisters and mothers. As the fruit of their consultation they instituted this Degree, which they called "Mary," in memory of the mother of Christ, our Lord. It was adopted by the Ancient Craft, and has come down to us unchanged, under the name of a Master Mason Daughter.

HISTORY OF THE TRUE KINSMAN.

This Degree was founded on the friendship that existed between Ruth, the Moabitess and Naomi, the mother of Mahlon, the Israelite, about the year B. C. 1312. During a very hard famine in the land of Judeah, a certain man of Bethlehem moved to the country of Moab, with his wife, Naomi, and his two sons, Mahlon and Chilon, and sojourned there. The sons were married to Ruth, of Moab, and Orpah, Ruth's sister. In the course of time Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and soon after Mahlon and Chilon both died, leaving Naomi a widow, and her children both dead, and herself in a strange land, far from home and kindred. In this sorrowful situation she felt it her duty to return to her own land and kinsmen. Having made due preparation, she informed her two daughters-in-law of her determination. Both were eager to go with her, but Naomi informed them that the journey was long and dangerous, and that by this time, under the Jewish law, all her husband's property was forfeited, and that she was poor, and

would be poor at home. She entreated her daughters-in-law to stay at home with their kindred. Orpah remained, but Ruth resolved to go with her mother-in-law, and said: "Entreat me not to leave thee; for where thou goest I will go, and where thou lodgest I will lodge. Thy people shall be my people, and thy God shall be my God. Where thou diest I will die, and there I will be buried. Nothing but death shall part you and me." This is the kind of friendship every true kinsman should feel each for the other. Ruth went with Naomi, and God blessed Ruth and she became the mother of a long line of kings in the land of Judeah, and her name an honored name in Israel. Her husband's name is found in the genealogy of the Savior of mankind.

HISTORY OF THE H. of J.

This Degree was founded on incidents that happened in the passage of the children of Israel from the wilderness of sin to the land of promise—first to commemorate the faithfulness of the two spies, Caleb and Joshua, in carrying

out the orders of Moses to spy out the land and bring a faithful report to the Camp of Israel. Second, to perpetuate the memory of the good deeds of Rahab, the innkeeper, in preserving the lives of the spies, and her fidelity to the promise made by her. It says to heroines that a promise once given should be kept, though death is threatened if you do not reveal. Third, to commemorate the wonderful work of God at the taking and fall of Jericho, and the entry of Israel into the land of promise, in the year B. C. 1451.

LANDMARKS.

No. 1. The Adoptive Degrees, known as the Master Masons Daughter, True Kinsman, and Heroine of Jericho, are given only to Master Masons, their wife, widow, mother, daughter, sister and legally adopted daughter.

No. 2. A Past Master that has been installed and presided over a Blue Lodge one year has the inherent right to give these Degrees.

No. 3. Every Master Mason to fulfill their obligation and to be in a position to do their

duty to a Mason's family, must be familiar with these Degrees.

No. 4. The Worshipful Master of the Lodge is required by the tenor of his office and his duty as Master Masons to have all the members of his Lodge take these Degrees. He must be qualified to give full instruction to the Craftmen in these important Degrees.

No. 5. All Master Masons' wives, mothers, sisters, daughters, adopted daughters and widows are rightfully entitled to these Degrees.

No. 6. Ladies' Courts is an organization; a society having its constitution, by-laws and rules for its government. The basis upon which a Court is erected are the three Degrees—Mason Daughter, True Kinsman and Heroine of Jericho. Every member of the Court must have the full three Degrees.

No. 7. A Perfect Court must have not less than five ladies and four Masons. A Court can have any number of ladies but only four Masons can be members of a Court. These four Masons fill the following offices viz: Three Directors, one Most Worthy Joshua.

No. 8. An organized Court is an independent society under the control of its members, except the Court is dispensated or warranted by a Grand Court, then of course it is subject to the Grand Body.

No. 9. A Court has the right to choose its members. The constitution must define the mode to make applications and the manner of electing candidates. A Master Mason's wife, mother, widow, sister, daughter and adopted daughter can be made members of a Court, provided they are organized in or elected a member, and not otherwise. The fact that they are a part of the Masonic family does not constitute them members of a Court.

No. 10. When a Past Master organizes a Court he must give the Court a certificate showing the Court was set to work by him, and sign his name, giving the name and number of his Lodge.

No. 11. When a Court is organized by or under the authority of a Grand Master, or by a Grand Instructor of a Grand Court they receive either a dispensation or a warrant, to

prove that they were legally organized.

No. 12. Master Masons that have the Degrees have the right to visit Courts, and Master Masons that have not the Degrees can receive them in the Court, upon the recommendation of the Court Directors and the payment of the Court fees. The receiving of the Degrees does not make them members of the Court.

No. 13. A Grand Court can be organized in any State or Territory where there is no Grand Court. Three or more Courts can call a convention. When the delegates of three or more Courts assemble, proceed as follows:

First. The Convention is called to order by the Matron or Delegate from the oldest Court. She states the purpose for which the Convention is called, and says: Our first business is to elect a Chairman. A Chairman and Secretary are elected.

Second. Open in the Heroines Degree. (Be careful to have none but Heroines present.)

Third. The Chair appoints a committee on

Credentials; that committee reports who are members of the convention, and the names of the Courts they represent; report adopted.

Fourth. A motion is made to organize a Grand Court. If adopted, proceed to elect Grand Officers and install the Grand Officers. (Any Past Master, Past Grand Master or Past Grand Matron can install.) The officers are seated in their stations.

Fifth. The Most Ancient Grand Matron announces that a motion to adjourn the Convention sine die. is in order; motion made and adopted. The M. A. G. M. declares the Convention closed, and the Grand Court of the State of ——— open for any business that may properly come before the Grand Body. (All business is done in the Heroines Degree.)

Sixth. Committees are appointed on Constitution, By-laws and Rules, and on Dispensations and Warrants, and other business to perfect the working of the Grand Court.

No. 14. All Present Matrons and Past Matrons and Present and Past Grand Joshuas are life members of the Grand Court. The

Grand Directors and Grand Instructor are members during their term of office.

No. 15. A member of a Court must serve in the office of Most Ancient Matron one year before they are eligible to the offices of Most Ancient Grand Matron or Senior Grand Matron.

No. 16. It is the vested and inherent right of Past Masters to give the Adoptive Degrees and organize Courts. The only way a Grand Court can control the organizing of Courts is for the Grand Lodge to adopt resoluitons giving the management of Courts of Heroines entirely to the Grand Court. This will prevent Past Masters from organizing Courts, but it cannot take from them the right to give the Degrees.

EMBLEMS.

A. M. M. D. emblem is made in the shape of an Olive Leaf; metal, silver; letters of the face, F. N. D. O. Z. B. T. K. C.; in center, A. R. M. Y.

A T. K's, a Sheaf of Barley; metal, silver;

letters on the case, U. T. R. H.

A Heroine of Jericho emblem, gold, in shape of a Spinning Wheel; letters R. I. J. O. E. H. C.

WORKING REGALIA.

The working, or business Regalia, need not be as fine or costly as the Regalia used on public occasions. The colors, patterns and trimmings must be the same, to suit the several degrees—white, blue and scarlet.

RODS, CROOK AND MACE.

Gate Keeper's, Red Rods, six feet long, with a gilded ball on the top.

M. W. J., a Shepherd's Crook, seven feet long; color, blue; crook gilded.

Court Director's Maces four feet long; color, white; head round and gilded; three inches in diameter; heel, an iron thimble.

ARK.

Size of the Ark, two feet long, twelve inches

wide, three stories high; first story eight inches deep; second story six inches deep, made to set in the first story about an inch, with a cornice or molding around its base; third story six inches deep, set in the second story about one inch, with moulding around its base; the cover made to fit over the third story; roof flat, with horns on the four corners. Color, first story scarlet; second story, sky-blue; third story, white; top of the cover, bronze. Mouldings, gilded. Horns, gilded. Four rings — one at each corner of the first story. Letters in the form of a half circle, F. N. D. O. Z. B. T. K. C.; on reverse side, R. I. J. O. E. H. C. Second story, the name and number of the Court on both sides. On the top, A. M. 2553. On the end, the date of the organization.

ARK FURNITURE.

Two Rods, or Poles, eight feet long, for carrying the Ark; color, blue; made to pass through the rings; a Holy Bible; three Candlesticks; three Silver Cups; two Ram's Horns; one Slipper; an Ear of Corn; a Bundle of Wheat Straw;

a Branch of Evergreen; a Vial of Olive Oil; Candles, etc.

ARK BEARERS.

The Ark is carried by four Heroines, in full dress, on all occasions, either public or private.

TRUE KINSMAN'S APRON.*—Same pattern; color, deep blue; trimmed with orange-colored velvet ribbon; silver fringe; lining white; white cord and tassels.

M. W. JOSHUA.—A collar fitting over the shoulders and coming to a point in the front at the waist; color, scarlet; made of velvet, silk or satin, golden fringe all around; twelve silver stars; trimmed with gold lace; cords of blue and white on each side of the lace; lining white. (See Plate No. 3.)

THE COURT DIRECTORS.—Same pattern as M. W. J.; color, scarlet; silver fringe; seven golden stars; trimming, silver lace.

THE M. A. M. FULL DRESS.

THE HEROINE'S DRESS AND APRON.—A

*The M. M. D.'s and T. K.'s may be made in one, by reversing the apron.

golden crown with twelve points; crown ornamented with twelve small silver stars set on a scarlet band one inch wide and placed around the crown at the base; in front a silver bugle; the points of the crown ornamented with brilliants, red, white, and blue. A purple robe, full from the shoulders and trailing four feet; robe trimmed with silver lace and spangled with small golden stars. A scepter, made to suit the taste. A page to attend her on public occasions—(a small boy.)

OFFICERS' JEWELS.

M. A. M.—A scepter and bugle of silver within a †gold hoop.

S. M.—A Silver Leaf, within a gold hoop.

M. W. J.—Silver Bible, within a gold hoop.

I. S. K.—Silver Cross, within a gold hoop.

O. G. K.—Silver Bugle, within a gold hoop.

C. Treas.—Silver Chest, within a gold hoop.

C. S.—Silver Pens, within a gold hoop.

C. D's.—Silver Sheaves of Wheat, within a gold hoop.

†Gold or yellow metal.

The jewels can be made of any size to suit the Court, and can be made to pin on the left breast, or hang on the neck by a scarlet ribbon.

THE DRESS.

The Canopy over the Throne is made in the form of a half circle at the top. The hangings are scarlet with blue lining, and trimmed with gold* and †silver. The cords and tassels are purple.

Carpets for hall and platforms, in colors of scarlet, blue and white. Seats covered with purple.

Dress for Ladies—Heroines—A white or purple dress; on the head a crown of ‡gold with three points in front onamented with seven silver stars, the crown trimmed with scarlet velvet ribbon.

A M. M. D.'s Dress.—Straw color; on the head a crown made of silver, with one point in the front; seven blue stars trimmed with blue velvet ribbon.

*Gold fringe and lace. †Silver fringe and lace.

‡The crown is made of heavy pasteboard, covered with gold paper.

A True Kinsman's Dress.—Sky blue; on the head a white turban, trimmed with orange-colored ribbon and sprigs of wheat straw. White gloves are worn in all the Degrees.

(The dresses described above are for public occasions.)

Gentlemens' Dress.—Black coat and pants, white vest, black hat, white gloves—full dress suit.

REGALIA—FULL.

Heroine of Jericho.—An apron and collar in one piece, made to fit over the shoulders and down to a point on the back, cut to fit around the neck and over the breast, down in front about two-thirds from waist to feet; color, scarlet; made of velvet, silk or satin; seven gold stars and five silver stars; a golden fringe around the edge of the entire apron; gold lace and silver lace for trimming; a cord and tassel to confine the apron at waist; lining white. (See Plate No. 2.)

The M. M. D. Apron.—Same pattern; color,

white; made of velvet, silk or satin; silver fringe; twelve silver stars; trimmed with blue velvet ribbon; lining blue; white cord and tassels.

COMPLETE EMBLEM.

It is made of silver in the shape of an Olive Leaf; on its face a golden Spinning Wheel and Sheaf of Barley; letters M. D., T. K., H. J.

GRAND COURT OFFICERS.

1. Most Ancient Grand Matron—M.A.G.M.
2. Senior Grand Matron—S. G. M.
3. Ancient Grand Instructor—A. G. I.
4. Most Worthy Grand Joshua—M.W. G. J.
5. Ancient Grand Treasurer—A. G. T.
6. Ancient Grand Secretary—A. G. S.
7. Grand Register—G. R.
8. Grand Director—G. D.
9. Grand Director—G. D.
10. Grand Director—G. D.
11. Senior Grand Attendant—S. G. A.
12. Junior Grand Attendant—J. G. A.
13. Inner Grand Keeper—I. G. K.
14. Outer Grand Keeper—O. G. K.

The first six officers are elective; the other eight are appointed by the Grand Matron elect just before she is installed. The Grand Instructor, Grand Joshua and Grand Directors are men; all the other officers are ladies.

GRAND COURT OFFICERS' JEWELS.

1. M. A. G. M.—A Scepter and Gavel, within a hoop.

2. S. G. M.—A Bugle and Gavel, within a hoop.

3. A. G. I.—The Sun, within a hoop.

4. M. W. G. J.—A Bible, open, within a hoop.

5. A. G. T.—A Chest and Key, within a hoop.

6. A. G. S.—Hand Holding a Pen, within a hoop.

7. G. R.—Bird with Letter in its Bill, within a hoop.

8. G. D.—Crossed Maces, within a hoop.

9. G. D.—Crossed Maces, within a hoop.

10. G. D.—Crossed Maces, within a hoop.

11. S. G. A.—Hand Clasping a Scroll, within a hoop.

12. J. G. A.—Both Hands Holding an Open Scroll, within a hoop.

13. I. G. K.—Trumpet and Crossed Rods, within a hoop.

14. O. G. K.—Dove and Crossed Rods, within a hoop.

The Grand Court Jewels are made of gold or yellow metal, made ot any size; can be made with bar and pin, or hung from the neck by a scarlet ribbon.

Past Most Ancient Grand Matron's emblem is made in the shape of Olive Leaf, with a Scepter and Gavel, crossed; letters, P. M. A. G. M. on the face. The emblem is made of gold.

POWERS AND PREROGATIVES OF THE M. A. G. M.

No. 1. She can preside at all communications of the Grand Court.

No. 2. She can assemble the Grand Court in

a special communication any time she determines it is needed.

No. 3. She can, by official dispensation, suspend the laws, by-laws, and rules of the Grand Court for a limited time.

No. 4. She can confer the Court Degrees in person or by authorized deputy.

No. 5. She can organize Courts either in person or by commissioned deputy.

No. 6. She can issue Dispensation to new Courts to work until the annual communication.

No. 7. She can suspend the work and business of a subordinate Court for good reasons, knowing that it is violating the laws, for a time, or until the annual Grand Communication.

No. 8. She can visit and preside in any Court under the jurisdiction of the Grand Court.

No. 9. She can decide all points, rules and questions of law. Her decisions hold good until reversed by the Grand Court or her successor.

No. 10. She can grant warrants to Courts upon proof that their warrant has been lost or destroyed.

RULES OF ORDER FOR COURTS.

1. The Presiding Officer, at the proper hour takes her seat and gives one rap for order. She then opens the Court in form.

2. The regular business of the court is done without a motion, as prescribed by the rules of business.

3. During the reading of the minutes silence must be observed. After they are read the minutes, if no objection is made, stand approved. If a member questions the correctness a move is made to correct; if adopted the correction is made.

4. A member when addressing the Court must stand and address the presiding officer as Most Ancient Matron.

5. When it is necessary to get the sense of the Court on any question or resolution it must be done by motion and second, and when stated by the presiding officer it is then the property of the Court, and is decided by the voting sign.

6. When an office is made vacant by death or removal, or any cause, the M. A. M. shall ap-

point a member to fill the vacancy until the regular election.

7. When an officer is not present at a called or regular meeting, the M. A. M. fills their stations pro tem.

8. The M. A. M. must control the business of the Court and determine the time to close, without a motion.

9. A member cannot speak more than one time on the same question until all who wish to speak have spoken, and not more than twice without permission from the M. A. M.

10. All motions must be made in writing when requested by the Court Secretary, and have the name of mover and seconder signed to it.

11. A motion to lay on the table must be decided without debate. When a question is laid on the table it cannot be taken up until the next meeting.

12. A motion to reconsider can only be acted on at the same meeting. The motion must be made by a member that voted with the majority.

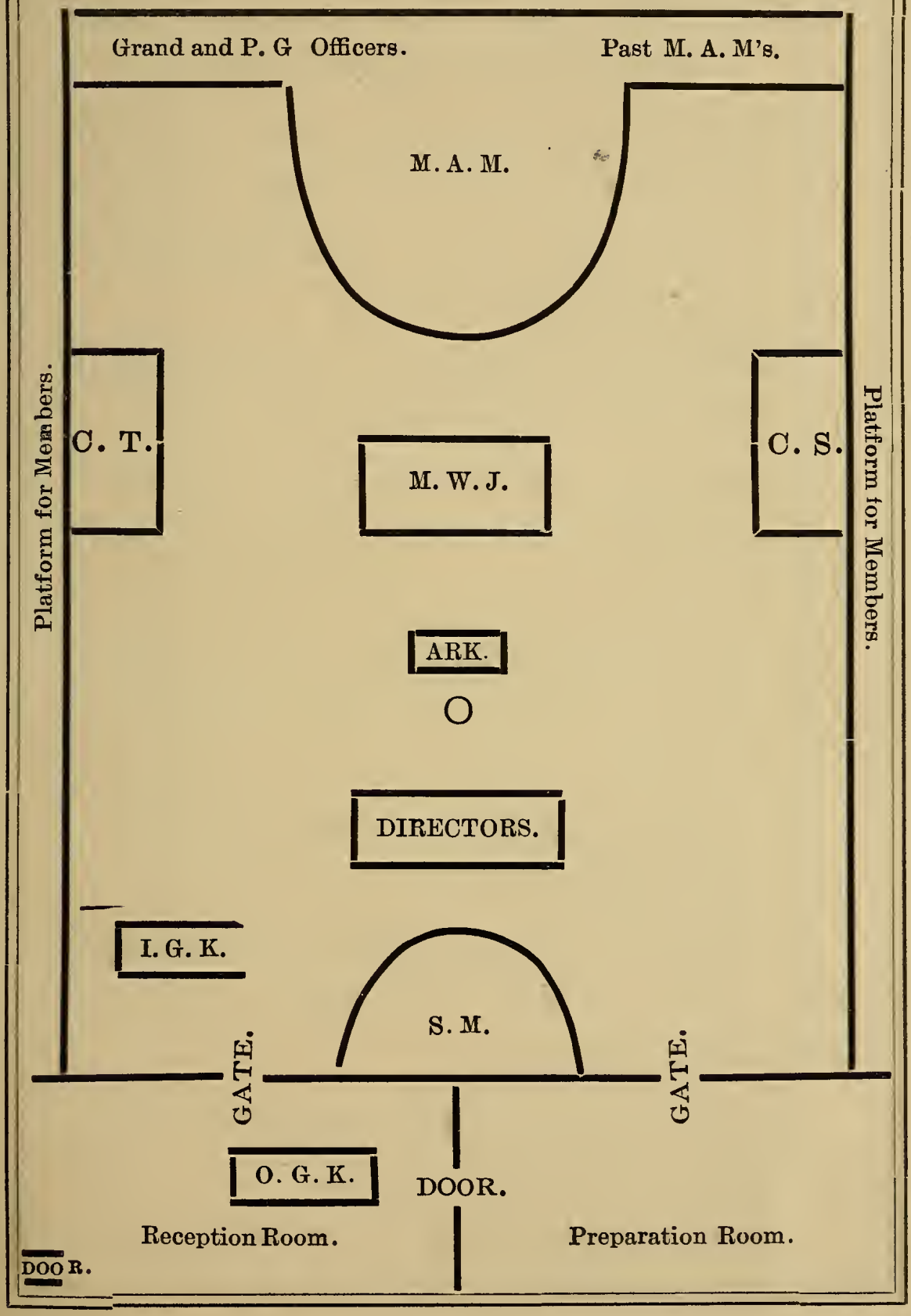
13. A motion for indefinite postponement if decided in the affirmative settles the question; it cannot be taken up again but by a two-thirds vote of the Court members at a subsequent meeting.

14. A motion when made and seconded and stated by the presiding officer, cannot be withdrawn without the consent of a majority of the members present.

15. The first named on all committees is the Chairman, unless otherwise ordered by the constitution.

16. If the Court is a member of the Grand Court, officers of the Grand Court when they visit must be received with the grand honors.

FORM OF A COURT OF HEROINES.



THE FORM OF THE COURT AND THE OFFICERS' SEATS.

The M. A. M. Throne sits on a platform, elevated above the floor three steps.

The Senior Matron sits on a platform elevated two steps above the floor.

The M. W. J. sits fronting the Ark, on a platform raised two steps above the floor.

The Court Treasurer sits on a platform raised one step above the floor, to the right of the M. A. M.

The Court Secretary sits on a platform raised one step above the floor, to the left of the M. A. M.

The Inner Gate Keeper sits in front of the reception room door.

The three C. D.'s at the end of the hall opposite the M. A. M., on a platform raised one step above the floor.

The Outer Gate Keeper sits at the hall door, in the reception room.

The Ark, in the center of the hall, sits on a

pedestal two feet six inches long, eighteen inches wide and eight inches high.

The dot in the circle in the center of the hall represents a member or visitor, saluting the M. A. M. and S. M.

OFFICERS OF A PERFECT COURT.

1. Most Ancient Matron, M. A. M.
2. Senior Matron, S. M.
3. Most Worthy Joshua, M. W. J.
4. Court Treasurer, C. T.
5. Court Secretary, C. S.
6. Inner Gate Keeper, I. G. K.
7. Court Director, C. D.
8. Court Director, C. D.
9. Court Director, C. D.
10. Outer Gate Keeper, O. G. K.
11. Committees.

INSTALLING CEREMONY

OF A

COURT OF HEROINES.

Court Installing Ceremonies.

The officers of a Court can be installed in public or private. This ceremony can be performed by any Past Master, Past Grand Master, or Grand or Past Grand Matrons.

PUBLIC INSTALLATIONS.

The ladies of the Court and other officials meet in a room or place near the hall or church where the installation is to be performed; dressed in full regalia and march in the following order to the place where the installation is to be, under the Marshalship of one of the Directors:

THE PROCESSION.

S. M.

I. G. K. O. G. K.

M. W. J.

C. S. C. T.

Members by Twos.

Directors.

Past M. A. M.'s

o o

Ark.

o o

M. A. M.

Marshal.

Master Masons when they join the procession.

The Ark is carried by four Heroines. The procession marches three times around the hall or church, music by a band, piano or organ; the officers are seated on the platform; the Ark in front of the M. A. M.; if there is room on the platform for all the members they are seated in the rear of the officers; if there is not room they are seated in front of the officers and platform.

CEREMONY.

The installing officers announces to the audience that ——— Court of Heroines of Jericho have assembled for the purpose of having their annual installation of the officers. Our ceremonies will open by invoking God's blessing upon the Court and its officers. The following is sung, or a sacred piece played by the band.

C. M.

1 Oh! 't was a joyful sound to hear
Our tribes devoutly say:
"Up, Israel, to the temple haste,
And keep your festal day!"

2 At Salem's courts we must appear,
With our assembled powers,
In strong and beauteous order ranged,
Like her united towers.

3 Oh, pray we then for Salem's peace!
For they shall prosp'rous be,
Thou holy city of our God,
Who bear true love to thee.

4 May peace within thy sacred walls
A constant guest be found;
With plenty and prosperity
Thy palaces be crowned.

The M. A. M. gives three raps and all stand, and the following prayer or an extempore one is made by the Most Worthy Joshua:

PRAYER.

Oh God, Thou art the source from which all blessings and comforts come. We offer praises and thanks unto thee for the mercies that has spared us, and we are permitted to assemble in our annual Court meeting. We thank thee for the care that thou hast preserved over the membership during our past life. Thou art our helper, oh Lord, we bless thy name. Thou art the fount of everlasting love. Thy bounteous hand scatters blessings all over our broad land. We come unto Thee, our only eternal ruler and governor, asking that Thou will endow the officers that are about to be installed, with wisdom, that they may, with Thy approbation, conduct the business of this Court for the best interest of its members and thy honor and glory, and when we have finished our pilgrimage in earth, may we, with all the redeemed, be safely housed in thee Celestial Courts of heaven to dwell with the our Father, God, forever. Amen! Amen!! Amen!!!

The M. A. M. gives one rap and all are seated. The following is sung or the band plays a piece of sacred music:

C. M.

1 Thy morning light and evening shade
  Successive comforts bring;
Thy plenteous fruits make harvest glad;
  Thy flowers adorn the spring.

2 Seasons and times and moons and hours,
  Heaven, earth, and air are thine;
When clouds distill in fruitful showers,
  The author is divine!

3 Thy showers the thirsty furrows fill;
  And ranks of corn appear;
Thy ways abound with blessings still—
  Thy goodness crowns the year.

During the singing the Marshal lights the three candles on the Ark and puts the officers' jewels on a chair near the Ark. On the Ark is the Bible, M. A. M. Golden Crown and Scepter, three silver cups, one cup with corn, another with oil, the other with pure water.

The Marshal then says to the installing officer (calling him or her by their title),* we are now ready to install the following officers. The Marshal reads the names of each officer and the office to which they have been elected or appointed.

We will call the installing officer P. G. M.

The P. G. M. says: I thank you. Please arrange the officers that are to be installed in a half circle, with the M. A. M. elect in the center in front of the Ark.

The Marshal arranges them and reports: P. G. M., The officers are in form for installation.

P. G. M.: Before we induct you into your several offices you will please answer the following questions:

Question—Are you willing to do the duties of the office to which you have been elected or appointed? All answer together.

Answer—I will attend to my duties with fidelity.

Question—Will you use your official power to have peace and harmony with and among all the members?

Answer—I will administer the laws and rules of the Court with equal justice.

P. G. M.: Thank you. Please place your right hand on your breast and repeat after me: I do hereby promise on the obligation of a

Heroine of Jericho to support and sustain each other in our several duties in and about the Court. I will punctually attend all meetings of the Court when it is possible for me to be present.

Please be seated (all the officers that are to be installed sit in the half circle).

The Marshal places the M. A. M. elect standing face toward the Ark, and says: P. G. M., I have the pleasure of presenting to you ———, who has been elected M. A. M., to preside over ——— Court for the ensuing Court year. She is now ready to be installed.

P. G. M.: I thank you, Marshal. You will cause her to be invested with the Purple Robe of Power. (Two of the Heroines fix the robe on properly.)

P.G.M.: The purple robe is an emblem of queenly dignity. May you wear it with honor. You are now invested with the jewel of office. (The Marshal places the jewel in its proper place.) You will now be seated upon the throne. (She is seated.)

P. G. M.: This crown—take it and wear it at all times when you are presiding. It will remind you that you represent a long line of queens that have sat on the throne of authority since the days of Abraham the faithful.

I present to you this Scepter of Government. With this in your hand you are to control the business of your Court. Use it as a presiding officer.

I present to you the Laws of the Court. It is your duty to execute them promptly. Have them read in your regular meetings from time to timé, that all the members may become familiar with the laws.

It is your duty to preside at all meetings of the Court, and call special meetings when they are needed. You are to decide questions of law or rules, preserve order, give instructions, sign all warrants for money on the Treasurer. You are to represent your Court in the Grand Communication, if your Court belongs to a Grand Court.

I present to you the Corn of Plenty. (The

Marshal puts the cup in her hand and lets it remain until the instruction is given and sets it back on the ark.) This corn is the staff of human life. It reminds you that you are the staff upon which the life of this Court depends. If you fail in your duty, your Court is crippled or dies.

I present to you the Oil. (The Marshal lets her touch the cup and sets it back.) Oil is a type of smoothness and gladness. It reminds you that if you would have joy and contentment in your Court you must let your lips pour out the sweet oil of love and harmony.

I present this cup of pure water. (The Marshal lets her take a drink and sets the cup back.) All nature must have water or they cannot live. Water is bountifully supplied to all living creatures by the Divine Governor of the Uinverse. It reminds you that it is your duty to give ample instruction to the members of your Court.

The P. G. M. gives three raps and all stand except the installed M. A. M. He says: By

the power and authority in me vested, I announce that..... is regularly installed Most Ancient Matron of..... Court for the ensuing Court year. He then says to the members and Masons, you will please assist me to salute the M. A. M. Say after me;—

We Hail! We Hail! We Hail! All give three distinct claps.

Hosannah! Hosannah! Hosannah! All wave their handkerchiefs three times.

We hail! We Hail! We Hail! All give claps, three times three.

The P. G. M. gives one rap and all are seated.

SENIOR MATRON.

Marshal.—P. G. M.—I now present..... ....who has been elected Senior Matron and is ready for installation.

P. G. M. Thank you. M———, you are honored by this Court by being elected Senior Matron. It is a responsible position and I now

invest you with the jewel of your office. You will please be seated in the station of the Senior Matron. It is your duty to assist the M. A. M. in several official duties, and when she is absent from a meeting or out of the Court jurisdiction it is your duty to attend to the business of the Court, and fill the M. A. M. duties.

MOST WORTHY JOSHUA.

Marshal. P. G. M., I present to you Bro. ....., who has been elected M. W. J. of this Court.

P. G. M. Bro....., I congratulate you on the very evident preference the Court has exhibited for you in electing you to the important station of M. W. J. I invest you with the jewel of office. It is your duty to be present at all meetings of the Court, and invoke God's blessing in opening the Court. It is also your duty to visit and give consolation to the sick members, and assist in arranging Court funerals. That you may be amply provided for all the duties of the office, I present to you the Holy Bible as your rule and guide. you will please be seated.

Marshal. P. G. M., I present you sister.... ....., who has been elected Treasurer of the Court.

P. G. M. Sister, I invest you with the jewel of your office. You will please be seated. It is the duty of the Court Treasurer to receive the money that is paid into the Court from the Court Secretary. It is your duty to keep an account of receipts and disbursements, and report the condition of the Treasury when called for,

COURT SECRETARY.

Marshal. P. G. M., I present Sister..... who has been elected Secretary of the Court.

P. G. M. Sister....., I invest you with the jewel of your office. You will please be seated. It is the duty of the Secretary to keep the minutes and business of the Court in proper form. You are to issue all official notices; keep a roll of members; receive all money that is paid into the Court, pay the same to the Treasurer and take her receipt. You are to draw all warrants on the Treasury and have them signed by the M. A. M., and counter-

signed by yourself. Look well to the books.

INNER GATE-KEEPER.

Marshal. P. G. M., I present to you Sister ....., who has been appointed Inner Gate Keeper of this Court.

P. G. M. Sister....., you are now invested with the jewel of your office, and I also present you this rod. It is your duty to guard the inside entrance of the Court under the orders of the M. A. M. You will please be seated.

THREE COURT DIRECTORS.

Marshal, P. G. M., I present to you Brothers..... , who have been appointed Court Directors, and are now ready for installation.

P. G. M. Brothers....., you are invested with the jewels of your office, and I also present you with the mace of defence. It is your duty to protect the ladies of the Court during their meeting, and attend the public business of the Court when requested by the M. A. M. You will please be seated.

OUTER GATE KEEPER.

Marshal. P. G. M., I present to you Sister .....' who has been appointed Outer Gate Keeper of this Court.

P. G. M. Sister....., you are invested with the jewel of your office. I also present to you the rod of protection. It is your duty to guard the outside entrance of the Court, under the orders of the M. A. M. You will please be seated.

P. G. M. By the power and authority in me vested, I announce that the officers of.... ....Court are installed in regular form in their several duties for the ensuing Court year. The officers that have just been installed will please remain seated, and all other Heroines and Masons will stand and assist in saluting. (Give three raps.) All repeat after me.

THE SALUTE.

We Hail! We Hail!! We Hail!!! All give three claps. (The P. G. M. gives one rap and all are seated.)

Hosannah! Hosannah!! Hosannah!!! and all wave their handkerchiefs three times.

We Hail! We Hail!! We Hail!!! All clap three times three.

Music by the band, piano or organ.

If there is an oration to be delivered, now is the time, after which the Court marches three times around the hall and is dismissed, or marches back to their Court room.

DEDICATING CEREMONY

OF A

COURT OF HEROINES.

DEDICATING A COURT.

A Court of Heroines can be dedicated either in public or private.

INSTRUCTIONS.

1. The Court Ark must have its full furniture necessary for the Court work, before the Court can be dedicated.

2. The ceremony can be performed by a Past Master, Past Grand Master, or District Deputy Grand Master.

3. The Ark must be placed in the centre of the hall, with all the furniture in sight, and the candles, on the Ark, burning,

4. The members of the Court in full dress and regalia. A lodge of Master Masons are requested to act as an escort to the Court, and Knight Templars as a guard of honor.

5. The Court, with the escort and guard of honor, or the Court can attend without either the escort or guard, assemble in a room or place near the hall and march into the hall and around the hall slowly three times. Music—band, piano or organ. The Court form in a circle around the Ark. Seats are placed to form a complete circle, with the Ark in the centre, not close but about one foot space between each chair.

CEREMONY.

The M. A. M., says: members of..... Court we have assembled for the purpose of having our Court dedicated, and I now have the pleasure of introducing to you..... the dedicating officer. She presents gavel to dedicating officer and he gives one rap and all are seated. (The Masons form a circle around the Court with the Knight Templars immediately in the rear of the M. A. M.)

DEDICATING OFFICER'S ADDRESS.

Most ancient Heroines of Jericho, the solemn duties of this hour and the very important business that has clled us together, demonstrates the high regard that Heroines have for the Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth. We feel that it is a holy duty to consecrate the business and the work of this Court of Heroines to the Lord God of the Universe. We are united under the form of a Court for mutual aid, and protection, to assist each other in sickness and distress, and comfort a member when lonely or disabled. Our mission is for good, therefore it is mete and right that it should be dedicated to the care of an Over-ruling Providence, and ask that he may guide us by his wisdom and bless each member in the noble work. Entreat our Heavenly Father not to leave us but to aid us in all our efforts to reach the courts of heaven.

Dedicating officer gives three raps and all stand and join hands holding their hands up even with their shoulders.

PRAYER BY M. W. J.

Our Heavenly Father,thou art great in great-

ness; in power, Almighty; majestic in all thy ways; illimitable in thy immensity. Goodness and mercy are a part of thy attributes. Thou hast graciously promised to hear prayer. Oh, Lord meet with us at this hour, and bless the work that we are engaged in. Consecrate this Court that we may in all things honor Thee. Accept the dedications of this Court. Let thy merciful kindness bless all that call on Thee. Give each member of this Court a heart to praise Thee in humility and love all the days of our pilgrimage on earth, and when we have finished our work on earth, oh! receive us in the Celestial Courts of Heaven, where we will give thee undivided praise from thankful hearts, in the name of our Lord and Savior. Amen. and Amen.

The members all repeat after the dedicating officer:

Hosannah, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; three times, dropping and raising their clasped hands each sentence.

The dedicating officer gives one rap and all are seated. Music or the following song.

6 6. 6. 6. 8. 8.

Dedication.

1 God of thine Israel true,
  Their pillar, shield, and rock.
Who, all the desert through,
  Didst lead them like a flock;
In this our sanctuary dwell,
Thou glorious, felt, invisible!

2 That holy peace shed down,
  The world can never give;
Thy truth with triumph crown,
  Command the dead to live;
And fill this consecrated place
With living trophies of thy grace.

Dedicating officer gives one rap and all stand. The members form in single file holding their handkerchiefs in the right hand by one corner When dedicating officer begins to read they march slowly around the Ark. As each member passes the Ark they wave the handkerchief and strike the Ark with it. (March with the sun having the Ark always on the right.)

And they shall make an ark of shettim-wood: two cubits and a half shall be the length thereof, and a cubit and a half the breadth thereof, and a cubit and a half the height thereof.

And thou shalt overlay it with pure gold, within and without shalt thou overlay it; and

shalt make upon it a crown of gold round about.

And thou shalt cast four rings of gold for it, and put them in the four corners thereof; and two rings shall be in the one side of it, and two rings in the other side of it.

And thou shalt make staves of shettim-wood, and overlay them with gold.

And thou shalt put the staves into the rings by the sides of the Ark, that the Ark may be borne with them.

The staves shall be in the rings of the Ark; they shall not be taken from it.

And thou shalt put into the Ark the testimony which I shall give thee.

And thou shalt put the mercy-seat above upon the Ark; and in the Ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee.

And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy-seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the Ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

At the closing of the reading each member halts at their seats, and face inward with handkerchief in their hands.

Dedicating officer says, please give me your attention. He reads:

And they brought the colt to Jesus, and cast their garments on him; and he sat upon him.

And many spread their garments on the way: and others cut down branches off the trees, and strewed them in the way.

And they that went before, and they that followed, cried, saying, Hosanna: blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the Kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

At the close of the last verse the members wave their handkerchiefs first time and say:

Hosanna in the highest.

Second time wave and say: Blessed is he that cometh.

Third time wave and say: Behold the King, our Lord.

Dedicating officer gives one rap and all are seated. Music or the following is sung.

C. M.

1. How pleasant thus to dwell below,
   In fellowship of love;
   And though we part, 'tis bliss to know
   The good shall meet above.
      O! that will be joyful, joyful, joyful,
      O! that will be joyful,
      To meet to part no more.

2. Yes, happy thought! when we are free
   From earthly grief and pain,
   In heaven we shall each other see,
   And never part again.
      O! that will be joyful, &c.

3. Then let us each, in strength divine,
   Still walk in wisdom's ways,
   That we, with those we love may join
   In never-ending praise,
      O! that will be joyful, &c.

Dedicating officer gives one rap and all stand. He says, Please form the kinsman's support. This is done by laying hands on each other's shoulder. This forms a compact circle around the Ark.

The Dedicating officer reads:

And they lifted up their voice, and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law; but Ruth clave unto her.

And she said, Behold, thy sister-in-law is gone back unto her people and unto her gods; return thou after thy sister-in-law.

And Ruth said, Entreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go: and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:

Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me.

And Naomi said unto her daughter-in-law, Blessed be he of the Lord, who hath not left off his kindness to the living and to the dead. And Naomi said unto her, The man is near of kin unto us, one of our next kinsmen.

And Ruth the Moabitess said, He said unto me also, Thou shalt keep fast by my young men, until they have ended all my harvest.

And Naomi said unto Ruth her daughter-in-law, It is good, my daughter, that thou go out with his maidens that they meet thee not in any other field.

So she kept fast by the maidens of Boaz.

The dedicating officer says, May we ever remain true kinsmen.

The members drop their hands to their sides and say, So it shall be.

Dedicating officer says, Please form the circle of Joshua. This is done by linking the little fingers together, and holding the hands up even with the shoulders, holding the handkerchief between the thumb and finger by one corner.

The dedicating officer reads:

Now, therefore, I pray you, swear unto me by the Lord, since I have showed you kindness, that ye will also show kindness unto thy father's house and give me a true token:

And that ye will save alive my father, and my mother, and my brethren, and my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death.

And the men answered her, Our life for yours if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the Lord hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

Then she let them down by a cord through the window: for her house was upon the town wall, and she dwelt upon the wall.

And she said unto them, Get you to the mountain, lest the pursuers meet you; and hide

yourselves there three days, until the pursuers be returned: and afterward may ye go your way.

And the men said unto her, We will be blameless of this thine oath which thou hast made us swear.

Behold, when we come into the land, thou shall bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, thy brethren, and all thy father's household home unto thee.

And it shall be, that whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood shall be upon his head, and we will be guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood shall be on our head, if any hand be upon him.

At the closing of the reading the members lower and raise their hands three times slowly, and say each time, We will bind our sheaves together. They then drop their hands to their side.

The dedicating officer gives one rap and all are seated.

Music or the following is sung:

C. M.

1. Hail, highly favored of the skies,
   Awake to joys divine;
   Spring from the dust, transported rise,
   In robes of splendor shine.

2. Before thy rising morn are driven
   The shades of midnight gloom;
   Bursting in brilliant rays from heaven,
   Thy glorious light is come.

3. T' illume thy throne, thy fame to spread
   Thy Lord his love displays,
   And pours his wonders round thy head,
   In everlasting blaze.

4. Earth's proudest monarchs, at command,
   Within thy courts await;
   And millions, flown from every land,
   Swarm round thy golden gate.

The dedicating officer gives three raps and all stand. He says, Attention Court.

In the name of the Lord God of the Universe in whom is all glory and power, we dedicate this Court to the work of Masons, Daughters, True Kinsmen, and Heroines of Jericho.

All the members wave their handkerchiefs three times.

Dedicating officer says, In the name of Mary of Salem, and Ruth of old. We solemly dedicate this court to love and friendship.

All the members give three claps.

Dedicating officer says, In the name of Joshua and Rahab, we solemly dedicate this Court to morality, virtue and honor.

All members gives claps three times three.

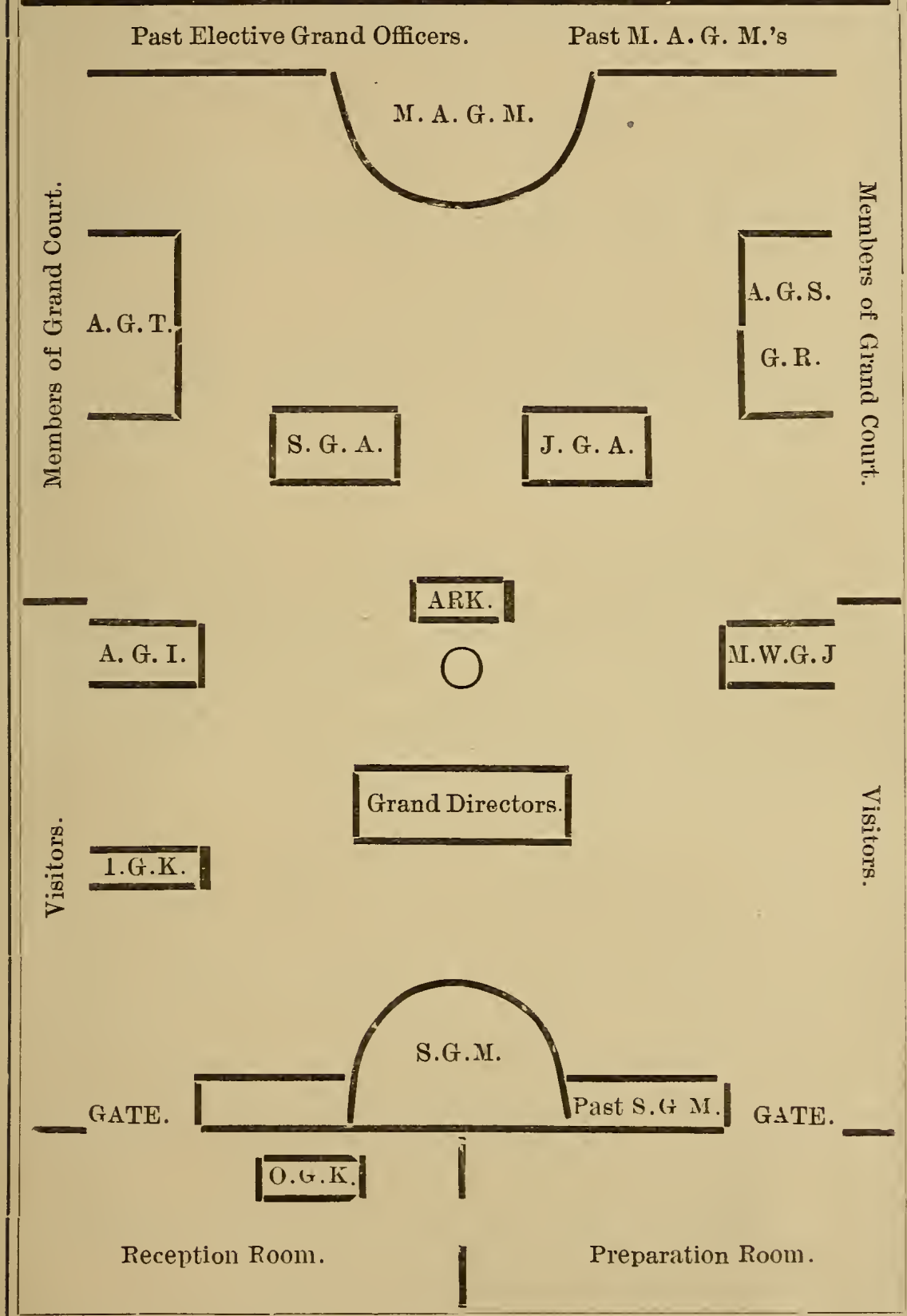
M. W. J. gives the benediction as follows:

Most Holy Lord God, let thy blessings in their fullness rest with this Court, and all who dedicate themselves to thee, and when our time on earth is finished we humbly ask Thee to give us a home in the heavenly country. Amen.

The dedicating officer gives one rap and all are seated.

Music or singing after which an oration may be delivered and the ceremony is closed.

FORM OF GRAND COURT.



INSTALLING CEREMONIES

OF A

GRAND COURT.

INSTALLING A GRAND COURT.

The officers of a Grand Court of Heroines of Jericho can be installed in public or private. The ceremony can be performed by a Past Master, Past Grand Master, or by a Grand or Past Grand Matron.

PUBLIC INSTALLATION.

The members of the Grand Court and members of Subordinate Courts assemble near the hall or church where the installation is to take place, dressed in full regalia, one of the Grand Directors acting as Grand Marshal, and march into the hall in the following order. (The Subordinate Courts are placed in line according to seniority, the younger Court first.)

SUBORDINATE COURT.

S. M.

I. G. K. O. G. K.

M. W. J.

C. S. C. T.

Directors.

Members by Twos.

Past M. A. M's by Twos.

o o

Ark.

o o

M. A. M.

Master Masons by Twos.

GRAND COURT.

S. G. M.

I. G. K. O. G. M.

M. W. G. J.

A. G. S. A. G. T.

A. G. I.

S. G. A. J. G. A.

G. R.

Grand Directors.

Past S. G. M.

o o

Ark.

o o

Members of Grand Court by Twos.

Past Grand Officers by Twos.

Past Grand Matrons by Twos.

M. A. G. M.

Page. Page.

The Knights Templars, as an escort, marches in single file on each side of the Grand Court. Three Knights abreast in the rear of the Grand Matron.

March three times around the hall slowly. Music by the band.

The Grand Court is seated on the platform and the Subordinate Court in front of the platform; the Masons in the rear of the Courts; the Knights Templars are seated on each side of the Grand Court.

The Ark is placed in the center in front of the Grand Matron. The candles are lighted by the Grand Marshal. (The candles ought to be the different colors of the degrees).

While the band is playing the Grand Marshal divests all the Grand Officers of their jewels, and places them on the Ark. The holy bible lays on the Ark opened at the Second Chapter of Joshua.

CEREMONY.

We will call the installing officer P. G. M. The Grand Marshal in addressing that officer is instructed to give that officer his proper title when introducing the officers to be installed.

P. G. M. gives one rap for order and says: We have assembled to install the officers of the Most Ancient Grand Court of..... We will thank you if you will give us your attention. The importance of the duties and responsibilities attached to the official business of the officers of a Grand Court demand that they should seek wisdom from the source of all knowledge and power, in obedience to an inward feeling of our dependence on the Almighty God. Most Worthy Grand Joshua will now implore the blessings of the Deity on the officers and members of the Grand Court. (Three raps are given and all stand).

PRAYER.

Oh God, Most Holy! Thou art all wise. Goodness and mercy are part of thy attributes in all ages of the world. In love and kindness Thou hast heard Thy people when they appealed to

thee in heartfelt prayer. We that are assembled here have faith in thy promises, and as members of a Grand Court of Heroines, we have been taught to reverence the God of our Fathers. Hear our prayer. Let thy blessing be upon the officers that are about to be installed. Endow them with wisdom, love and patience; guide them in counsel; meet with them in their communication, and may thy peaceful presence go all along the journey of life with us. When we have fulfilled our time in the Courts of this earth, may the divine light of thy reconciled countenance shine upon us in the Heavenly Courts, and we will give Thee all praise, all honor and glory to our Father, a triune God, forever. Amen and amen.

The members all say: Honor and praise God.

P. G. M. gives one rap, and all are seated.

Music.

Grand Marshal places the M. A. G. M. elect at the Ark, standing, and says:

P. G. M., I take pleasure in presenting to you ....., who has been honored by the

sufferage of this Grand Court, by election to the office of Most Ancient Grand Matron.

P. G. M.: Thank you. Gives three raps. All stand.

M....., you have been chosen to the highest office in this Grand Court. I take pleasure in having you invested with the robe of state. (Two of the ladies arrange the robe properly.) I present the jewel of your office; wear it with honor. I present the crown of queenly dignity; place it on your head, and be seated upon the throne. (Two ladies conduct her to the throne and seat her.)

Most Ancient Grand Matron: I now congratulate you on the attainment of the highest honor in the Gift of the Grand Court. The duties of your office will be found in the Constitution and the written and unwritten law. Your authority will be respected by every true Heroine of Jericho. May you be faithful to your duty.

P. G. M.: Let all repeat after me, and salute the M. A. G. M.

We Hail! We Hail! We Hail! Three claps are given by all.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna! At each sentence three waves of a handkerchief are given.

The P. G. M. then says: I now announce that ..... is regularly installed. M. A. G. M. of the Most Ancient Grand Court of ....for the ensuing Court year.

All give claps, three times three.

P. G. M. gives one rap and all are seated.

The Grand Marshal introduces the other grand officers elect in their regular order, and when installed he seats them to the right and left of the M. A. G. M. If the installation is in private, he seats the officers in their stations.

INSTALLING THE SENIOR GRAND MATRON.

P. G. M.: M....., you have been elected to the important station of Senior Grand Matron. You are admonished to be faithful in the discharge of your duties, You are to counsel and assist the M. A. G. M., and should that officer by death, or any unforseen casualty, be disabled from fulfilling the duties of presiding over the business of the Grand Court, you are her immediate successor. I now invest you

with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

ANCIENT GRAND INSTRUCTOR.

Brother ....., you have been elected Ancient Grand Instructor of this Grand Court. It is your duty, under the orders of the M. A. G. Matron, to visit and give instructions in the several degrees to the subordinate Courts. you are also to open and organize new Courts when authorized by the M. A. G. Matron. You are now invested with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

MOST WORTHY GRAND JOSHUA.

Rev. Brother ....., you have been elected by the members of this Grand Court to the very important office of Most Worthy Joshua. It is your duty to to be present at the communication of the Grand Court, and attend to the devotional exercises. You are also to attend to the funeral ceremonies of members of the Grand Court. That you may be fully qualified for your work I present to you this Holy Book [Bible]. I now invest you with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

ANCIENT GRAND TREASURER.

M....., You have been elected Ancient Grand Treasurer of this Grand Court. It is an important office. You will find your duties fully explained in the Constitution. Read it carefully. I now invest you with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

ANCIENT GRAND SECRETARY.

M....., the Grand Court has honored you by electing you to the station of Ancient Grand Secretary. You are requested to carefully read your duties in the Constitution. You are now invested with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

GRAND REGISTER.

M....., you have been appointed Grand Register of this Grand Court. Your duties are fully explained in the Constitution. Read them carefully. I now invest you with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

GRAND DIRECTORS.

Brothers....., you have been appointed Grand Directors in this Grand Court. It is your duty to assist the M. A. G. Matron to pre-

serve order during the Grand Communications and to attend to the outside business of the Grand Court, and marshal all processions. You are now invested with the mace and jewel of your office. Please be seated.

SENIOR AND JUNIOR GRAND ATTENDANTS.

M... ....., you are honored with the appointment of Senior and Junior Grand Attendants. It is your duty to attend to the orders of the M. A. G. Matron in conveying messages in and about the Grand Communication. You are also to prepare and attend any refreshments ordered by the M. A. G. Matron or Grand Court. You are now invested with the jewel of your office. Please be seated.

INNER AND OUTER GRAND KEEPERS.

M.....you have been appointed Inner and outer Grand Keepers of this Grand Court. It is your duty to guard the inner and outer entrance of the Grand Court under the instructions of the M. A. G. Matron. You are now invested with rods and jewel of your office. Please be seated.

P. G. M. gives three raps and all stand ex-

cept the officers who have been installed. He then proclaims:

Take notice: By the power and authority in me vested, I now announce the officers of the Most Ancient Grand Court of....., installed in their several offices for the ensuing Court year. Let us salute. (All that are standing assist in saluting.)

We Hail! We Hail! We Hail! Claps are given three times.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosenna! The handkerchiefs are waved three times three.

We Hail! We Hail!! We Hail!!! Claps are given three times three.

The P. G. M. gives one rap and all are seated.

Music.

If there is an oration to be delivered, now is the time, after which the Grand Court and attendants march around the hall three times and retire or disband.

BURIAL CEREMONIES

—OF A—

HERIONE OF JERICHO.

The funeral ceremonis can be attended to by a Most Worthy Joshua, a past M. W. Joshua, a Past Master, or Present Master.

DIRECTIONS.

1. To receive the honorable burial by the Court, a member must have the full three degrees and depart this life a member in good standing.

2. When a Most Ancient Matron receives notice of the death of a member, it is her duty to issue orders to the members of the Court to make preparations to attend the funeral. She also extends an invitation to other Courts to assist in honoring a deceased member.

3. Should the family of the deceased member object to the Court taking charge of the body, and preparing for interring it, the Court is obliged to respect the family's wishes. This action on the part of the family releases the Court from all expenses of the funeral.

4. Should the deceased member hold a membership in other secret societies, the M. A. M. must call their presiding officers to a consultation and make arrangements for an equal division of the expenses and honors. If it be impossible to make satisfactory arrangements, the Court must take full charge of the body.

5. The M. A. M. shall arrange to have Master Masons as pall bearers; but if other societies share a part with the Court, the pall bearers must be divided between them.

THE FUNERAL DRESS.

6. The funeral dress of members of a Court of Heroines is a black dress, white veils trimmed with a border of black crape, white gloves, a rosette made of scarlet, yellow, and blue ribbon, worn on the left breast. The officers wear their jewels. The gavels, rods and maces

are trimmed with black crape. Each member carries in her left hand a spray of wheat straw with the seed in it. (Courts are admonished to keep a bundle of wheat in the Ark for this purpose.) The veils are worn to suit the taste of the Court, but all members of a Court must have and wear their veils alike.

7. If a sojourner in good standing dies within the jurisdiction of a Court, it is the duty of the Court or Courts to attend to the interment under the direction of the Court that the sojourner is a member, or if her Court desires the remains sent home, the Directors under the instructions of the M. A. M., attend to the forwarding. The court of which the deceased was a member shall pay all expenses incurred in the interment or forwarding the remains, to the Court that attended to the business.

8. Masons attending a Court funeral must be dressed in black, wear white gloves, and a blue rosette on left breast.

9. When two or more courts are in procession, the Court of which the deceased was a member will march nearest the remains.

10. A Court in procession is under the con-

trol of the M. A. M., and no one must leave the ranks without her permission.

11. The Directors, one or more of them, are the Marshals. It is their duty to make all arrangements, under the orders of the M. A. M., for the funeral, and conduct the procession.

12. The members of a Court can turn out on foot or in vehicles. Going to the grave the Court marches before the remains. At the church or grave the casket is carried through the lines the members following it.

SERVICES.

The Court assembles in their hall, or some place near where the deceased is. The M. A. M. declares the Court open, and annouces the business that has called them together. The C. S. reads the name and age of deceased, and how long she had been a member, the day and date of her death. This is recorded in the Book of Records.

ORDER OF MARCH.

The procession is formed and marches to where the deceased is, and receives the casket and march as near as possible in the following

order, to the church or place where the services are to be performed:

Directors, with maces.
Masons, by twos.
Heroines, by twos.
I. G. K. O. G. K., with rods.
C. S. C. T
S. M.
Past Senior Matrons.
M. W. J. and Clergy.
Past M. A. Matrons.
M. A. M.

Marshal.

o o
o o
o o

Casket.

Family.
Other Societies.
Citizens and Friends.

SERVICES AT THE CHURCH.

The Court opens rank and the casket is conveyed through into the church. The procession marches after the casket, led by the M. A. M. The family follows, after them the other societies and friends. The M. A. M., M. W. J. and Past Matrons are seated on the platform, the family on front seats, the Court in seats behind the family, the Masons in the rear of the Court, other societies after them.

CEREMONY.

The M. W. J. announces the purpose of the assembling and the name and age of the deceased, and the length of time she had been a member of ..... Court No.... He then, or a clergyman, announces the following hymn or some other appropriate one.

P. M.

1. Happy soul, thy days are ending,
All thy mourning days below;
Go—the angel guards attending—
To the sight of Jesus go.
Waiting to receive thy spirit,
Lo! the Savior stands above;
Shows the purchase of his merit,
Reaches out the crown of love.

2. Struggle through the latest passion,
To thy great Redeemer's breast;
To his uttermost salvation,
To his everlasting rest.
For the joy he sets before thee,
Bear a momentary pain;
Die, to live a life of glory;
Suffer, with thy Lord to reign.

PRAYER.

The M. A. M. gives three raps and all stand. M. W. J. addresses the throne of grace in the following prayer:

Our Heavenly Father, we praise Thee, we

adore Thee, we thank Thee for the many blessings that Thou hast bestowed upon the members of this Court,and all the true followers of our Lord and Savior. To-day we are bowed down in sorrow. Death has entered our ranks, and a loved sister is gone the way of all the earth. Our hearts are heavy with mourning. We come unto Thee, our God and Father, asking and pleading that Thou wilt comfort us in our distress. Have mercy upon all that call on Thee in this hour of grief. Let the smiles of thy benign countenance rest upon the family and friends of our dear deceased sister. May we who look upon her face for the last time in earth, so live that when we take our farewell from this world and journey towards eternity, may we, with thy blessed approbation, meet our sister in the Courts of the Heavenly Land, and in the fadeless light of thy glorious presence enjoy with our sister the company of the redeemed from earth forever. And we will give Father, Son and Holy Spirit honor and praise, now and forever. Amen.

All the members repeat after the M. A. M. the following words:

IT IS THE WILL OF GOD. WE BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.

The M. A. M. gives one rap and all are seated.

A solemn piece is played, or a hymn is sung.

INVOCATION.

The M. A. M. gives three raps and all stand. The M. W. J. leads and the members respond:

M. W. J.: Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer, and attend to my supplication in the day of my trouble. I will call upon Thee for Thou will answer me.

Response: Hear us, O Lord. Have mercy upon us.

M. W. J.: In my distress I cried unto the Lord and he heard me. My help cometh from the Lord; he will not slumber.

Response: The Lord is good. His mercies endureth forever.

M. W. J.: God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in trouble. Why art thou cast down, oh my soul. Hope thou in God. The eye of the Lord is upon them that fear him.

Response: The mercies of the Lord endureth forever.

M. W. J.: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Blessed be the Kingdom of our father David that cometh in the Lord.

Response: Hosanna in the highest. His mercies endureth forever.

M. W. J.: Entreat me not to leave, or to return from following after thee. Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

Response: Oh Lord, where Thou goest let me follow Thee.

M. W. J.: Oh Lord, save my father and my mother, and my brethren and my sisters, and all people, in the heavenly land, and deliver our lives from eternal death.

Response: Draw us, oh Lord, by the cords of thy love, for thy mercies endureth forever.

The M. A. M. gives one rap and all are seated. A hymn is sung, after which the sermon is delivered. At the closing of the sermon the M. A. M. gives three raps and all stand.

The M. W. J. announces that the minister will dismiss now and that the congregation be

seated and remain seated until the Court and Casket passes out. While the organist plays a solemn piece of music the Court and other societies march around and view the deceased, and form a double rank in the aisle, if there is room, if not, they form on the outside for the casket to pass between the lines to the hearse.

[It may be and sometimes will be the desire of the congregation to look upon the face of the deceased. If there is time the congregation can walk pass the the casket and out of the church while the Court remains seated untill all have passed out.]

BORNE TO THE GRAVE.

ORDER OF MARCH IN VEHICLES.

M. W. J. and Clergy.
Masons.
Heroines.
Officers and Past Officers.
Past Matrons and Past Joshuas.
M. A. Matrons.
Pall Bearers.

o o Hearse. Marshal.
o o

Family.
Other Societies.
Friends.

CEREMONY AT THE GRAVE.

When they arrive at the grave the Court and other societies form and open ranks and the casket is conveyed through the ranks to the grave and set over the grave.

The Court forms in a circle around the grave with the family at the foot,and M. W. J., the Clergy and M. A. M. at the head. The following hymn is lined out and sung.

L. M.

1 Unveil thy bosom, faithful tomb;
Take this new treasure to thy trust;
And give these sacred relics room
To slumber in the silent dust.

2 Nor pain, nor grief, nor anxious fear
Invade thy bounds: no mortal woes
Can reach the peaceful sleeper here,
While angels watch the soft repose.

3 So Jesus slept;—God's dying Son
Passed through the grave, and blest the bed;
Rest here, blest saint, till from his throne
The morning break, and pierce the shade.

4 Break from his throne, illustrious morn;
Attend, O earth! his sov'reign word;
Restore thy trust—a glorious form –
Call'd to ascend and meet the Lord.

PRAYER.

Oh, merciful God and Father of our Lord

Jesus Christ who is the resurrection and life, whomsoever believeth in thee shall never die eternally, we humbly beseech Thee to hear our prayer, and let thy comforting influences rest with those who mourn to-day, and give us confidence to believe that Thou will raise our sister up at the last day, to a life of everlasting happiness. May we be found acceptable in thy sight when we come to exchange worlds and receive that blessing which was promised to all who love and fear Thee, by our Lord and Savior, Thy beloved Son, saying come ye blessed of My Father, and inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of the world. Grant this we beseech Thee, oh merciful Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

All the members say: LET THE WILL OF GOD BE DONE. BLESS HIS HOLY NAME.

EXHORTATION.

Friends, this solemn scene tells you that our Court has been visited by the Messenger of death, against whose entrance the Gate Keepers could not oppose, stop or guard. The chain

of Heroines has been broken; a link is gone; our number is one less. We mourn the loss of a dear sister. All that remains of our beloved companion, A..... B..... is now about to be consigned to its last narrow house to rest until the great last day. No more on earth will she meet Heroines around the altar of love; no more will the gates of Courts open to admit her within its sacred retreat. Her voice is silent; her seat is vacant. We that have met her so often will miss her. She has gone, she sleeps with those that have passed the portals of death. Sickness, sorrow and the troubles of life, are hers no more. She is at rest. We assemble here to-day to bid our departed sister a last, long farewell. It has pleased the Almighty Father to call our sister from earth. May she find a heavenly rest in the Courts of eternal bliss. May she dwell in the light of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and company angels and the heavenly host forever. May it be the happy lot of all her Court relations,and friends to meet her in the heavenly land.

The members all say, Amen! Amen! Amen!

While the casket is lowered into the grave the following is sung:

P. M.

1 Friend after friend departs:
Who hath not lost a friend?
There is no union here of hearts
That finds not here an end:
Were this frail world our only rest,
Living or dying, none were blest.

3 Beyond the flight of time,
Beyond this vale of death,
There surely is some blessed clime
Where life is not a breath,
Nor life's affection transient fire,
Whose sparks fly upward to expire.

3 There is a world above,
Where parting is unknown;
A whole eternity of love,
Form'd for the good alone:
And faith beholds the dying here
Translated to that happier sphere.

M. W. J. (holding a spray of wheat in seed) says: We deposit this emblem in the grave of Sister..... to express our belief in the resurrection of the body of our sister when the earth shall end its mission, and the Son of Man shall come a second time, they that were planted in his name shall rise and meet him in the air. He said, I am the resurrection and the life; he

that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. (The spray is dropped into the grave.)

The members of the Courts pass around the head of the grave and drop the sprays into it (this is done in silence) and return to the circle.

CHURCH SERVICE.

By M. W. J. or a Clergyman: Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God, in His wise providence, to take out of this world the soul of our deceased sister, we therefore commit her body to the ground, *earth to earth*, *ashes to ashes*, *dust to dust*; looking for the general resurrection in the last day, and the life of the world to come, through our Lord Jesus Christ; at whose second coming in glorious majesty to judge the world, the earth and the sea shall give up their dead; and the corruptible bodies of those who sleep in Him shall be changed, and made like unto His own glorious body, according to the mighty working whereby he is able to subdue all things unto himself. Amen.

The members all respond: It is the will of God. Amen.

The M. A. M. can declare the court closed, or have the procession return to their hall and close the court in regular form.

END.

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